1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   A computer-implemented method for a telephony server to provide services based upon a call from a user, comprising the steps of:

receiving an incoming call from a user who is using a telephone communication device;

retrieving over a computer network a voice application from a remote web site;

using the retrieved voice application to have a speech-based conversation over the telephone communication device with the user to obtain service data from the user;

using the retrieved voice application to perform the requested service based upon the user-provided service data; and

after performing the requested service, the voice application and the user service data are removed from the telephony server-;

wherein a voice application request is transmitted to the remote web site over a computer network, wherein the web site selects a voice markup language program based upon the request and provides the selected voice markup language program to the telephony server;

wherein the provided voice markup language program interacts by a speech-based conversation with the user;

wherein the web site includes a database that stores data about voice applications in accordance with a predetermined voice application taxonomy, wherein the

web site retrieves voice application data based upon the request from the telephony server, wherein the retrieved voice application data is used to provide the voice markup language program to the telephony server.

2. (ORIGINAL)   The method of claim 1 wherein the user uses a wireless communication device.

3. (ORIGINAL)   The method of claim 1 wherein the voice application is a voice markup language application.

4. (ORIGINAL)   The method of claim 2 wherein the voice application is a Voice Extensible Markup Language application.

5. (CANCELLED)

6. (CANCELLED)

7. (CANCELLED)

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   The method of claim 7 1 wherein the request is based at least in part upon the voice application taxonomy.

9. (ORIGINAL)   The method of claim 8 wherein the voice application taxonomy includes classifications selected from the group consisting of required speech engine resources, required telephony resources, required telephony markup language, required application server environment, and combinations thereof.

10. (ORIGINAL)   The method of claim 9 wherein a plurality of audio advertisements is accessible by the web site, wherein at least one of the audio advertisements is retrieved based upon predetermined selection rules, wherein the retrieved audio advertisement is provided to the telephony server and played to the user.

11. (ORIGINAL)   The method of claim 10 wherein the request includes a user profile, wherein at least one of the audio advertisements that substantially matches the user profile is played to the user.

12. (ORIGINAL)   The method of claim 11 wherein the selection rules includes balanced ad usage rules that are used to determine which stored audio advertisement to retrieve.

13. (ORIGINAL)   The method of claim 1 wherein the telephony server routes the call from the user over a Voice Over IP (VoIP) connection.

14. (ORIGINAL)   The method of claim 1 wherein the telephony server routes the call from the user over a Voice on the Net (VON) connection.

12. (ORIGINAL)   The method of claim 1 wherein the telephony server routes the call

from the user over a public switched telephone network.

13. (ORIGINAL)   The method of claim 1 wherein the computer network is a global

communication network.

14. (ORIGINAL)   The method of claim 13 wherein the computer network is an

Internet network.

15. (ORIGINAL)   The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

        after performing the requested service, transferring at least a portion of the

user service data to a remote computer on the computer network and removing the voice

application and the user service data from the telephony server.

16. (ORIGINAL)   The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

        selecting at least one speech engine to operate with the retrieved voice

application.

17. (ORIGINAL)   The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

        selecting at least one speech recognition engine to operate with the

retrieved voice application.

18. (ORIGINAL)   The method of claim 17 further comprising the step of:

CLI-1247833v1

selecting at least one text-to-speech engine to operate with the retrieved voice application.

19
~~22.~~ (ORIGINAL)   The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

detecting an abnormal condition during execution of the voice application and providing notification of the detected abnormal condition.

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~~23.~~ (ORIGINAL)   The method of claim 1 wherein the telephony server provides additional functions for operation of the voice application on the telephony server, wherein the additional functions are selected from the group consisting of timer means, registration means, logger means, health monitor means, alarm means, alert means, and combinations thereof.

21
~~24.~~ (ORIGINAL) ·   The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

determining which voice application to retrieve over the computer network based upon dialed number of the incoming call.

22   21
~~25.~~ (ORIGINAL)   The method of claim ~~24~~ wherein a database stores an association between phone numbers and computer network identifiers, said method further comprising the steps of:

determining the dialed number of the incoming call;

retrieving from the database a computer network identifier that is associated with the determined dialed number; and

retrieving over the computer network the voice application that is
identified by the computer network identifier.

26. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   A computer-implemented telephony server that

provides services based upon a call from a user, comprising:

at least one telephone network interface card that receives an incoming

call from a user who is using a telephone communication device;

a uniform resource locator (URL) administrator that retrieves over a

computer network a voice application from a remote web site;

a voice markup language engine that uses the retrieved voice application

to have a speech-based conversation over the telephone communication device with the

user to obtain service data from the user;

wherein the voice markup language engine uses the retrieved voice

application to perform the requested service based upon the user-provided service data;

and

wherein the telephony server is substantially stateless with respect to the

user call after the requested service is performed.;

wherein the voice markup language engine transmits a voice application

request to the remote web site over a computer network, wherein the web site selects a

voice markup language program based upon the request and provides the selected voice

markup language program to the telephony server;

wherein the provided voice markup language program interacts by a

speech-based conversation with the user;

wherein the web site includes a database that stores data about voice

applications in accordance with a predetermined voice application taxonomy, wherein the

web site retrieves voice application data based upon the request from the telephony

server, wherein the retrieved voice application data is used to provide the voice markup language program to the telephony server.

27. (ORIGINAL) The telephony server of claim 26 wherein the user-provided service data generated based upon the call is removed from the telephony server so that the telephony server is substantially stateless with respect to the user call after the requested service is performed.

28. (ORIGINAL) The telephony server of claim 26 wherein the voice application is removed from the telephony server so that the telephony server is substantially stateless with respect to the user call after the requested service is performed.

29. (ORIGINAL) The telephony server of claim 26 wherein the user uses a wireless communication device.

30. (ORIGINAL) The telephony server of claim 26 wherein the voice application is a voice markup language application.

31. The telephony server of claim 26 wherein the voice application is a Voice Extensible Markup Language application.

32. (CANCELLED)

33. (CANCELLED)

34. (CANCELLED)

29
35. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   The telephony server of claim 34 26 wherein the

request is based at least in part upon the voice application taxonomy.

36
36. (ORIGINAL)   The telephony server of claim 35 wherein the voice application

taxonomy includes classifications selected from the group consisting of required speech

engine resources, required telephony resources, required telephony markup language,

required application server environment, and combinations thereof.

31
37. (ORIGINAL)   The telephony server of claim 36 wherein a plurality of audio

advertisements is accessible by the web site, wherein at least one of the audio

advertisements is retrieved based upon predetermined selection rules, wherein the

retrieved audio advertisement is provided to the telephony server and played to the user.

32
38. (ORIGINAL)   The telephony server of claim 37 wherein the request includes a

user profile, wherein at least one of the audio advertisements that substantially matches

the user profile is played to the user.

39. (ORIGINAL)   The telephony server of claim 38 wherein the selection rules

includes balanced ad usage rules that are used to determine which stored audio

advertisement to retrieve.

40. (ORIGINAL)   The telephony server of claim 26 wherein the telephony server

routes the call from the user over a Voice Over IP (VoIP) connection.

41. (ORIGINAL)   The telephony server of claim 26 wherein the telephony server

routes the call from the user over a Voice on the Net (VON) connection.

42. (ORIGINAL)   The telephony server of claim 26 wherein the telephony server

routes the call from the user over a public switched telephone network.

43. (ORIGINAL)   The telephony server of claim 26 wherein the computer network is

a global communication network.

44. (ORIGINAL)   The telephony server of claim 43 wherein the computer network is

an Internet network.

45. (ORIGINAL)   The telephony server of claim 26 further comprising:

        a plurality of speech engines, wherein at least one of the speech engines is

selected to operate with the retrieved voice application.

46. (ORIGINAL)   The telephony server of claim 26 further comprising:

a plurality of speech recognition engines, wherein at least one of the

speech recognition engines is selected to operate with the retrieved voice application.

47. (ORIGINAL)   The telephony server of claim 46 further comprising:

a plurality of text-to-speech engines, wherein at least one of the text-to-

speech engines is selected to operate with the retrieved voice application.

48. (ORIGINAL)   The telephony server of claim 26 wherein the URL administrator

determines which voice application to retrieve over the computer network based upon

dialed number of the incoming call.

12

43

49. (NEWLY ADDED) A computer-implemented system for a telephony server to

provide services based upon a call from a user, comprising:

means for receiving an incoming call from a user who is using a telephone

communication device;

means for retrieving over a computer network a voice application from a

remote web site;

means for using the retrieved voice application to have a speech-based

conversation over the telephone communication device with the user to obtain service

data from the user;

means for using the retrieved voice application to perform the requested

service based upon the user-provided service data;

wherein after performing the requested service, the voice application and

the user service data are removed from the telephony server;

means for transmitting a voice application request to the remote web site

over a computer network, wherein the web site selects a voice markup language program

based upon the request and provides the selected voice markup language program to the

telephony server;

means for interacting with the provided voice markup language program

by a speech-based conversation with the user;

means for storing, on the web site, data about voice applications in

accordance with a predetermined voice application taxonomy, wherein the web site

retrieves voice application data based upon the request from the telephony server,

wherein the retrieved voice application data is used to provide the voice markup language

program to the telephony server.